with the export obligations; and

(d) the action taken by Government against the exporters who diverted the loaned gold in the domestic market and earned lot of money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) The total quantity of gold imported by MMTC under EXIM Policy Scheme since 1988 up to 15.11.96 is 78400 kgs.

(b) The total gold supplied to the jewellery exporters since 1988-89 up to 15.11.96 is as follows

Year	Gold issued (qty. in kgs.) EOU/EPZ*	DTA* Total
1988-89	134	—	134
1989-90	680	—	680
1990-91	1082	—	1082
1991-92	2466	—	2466
1992-93	4237	4139	8376
1993-94	4324	9302	13626
1994-95	5789	12131	17920
1995-96	4923	15298	20221
1996-97 (as on 15.11.96)	2408	10442	12850
Total	26043	51312	77355

*DTA : Domestic Tariff Area
*EOU/EPZ : Export Orineted Unit/Export processing Zone

(c) Nineteen exporters in EOUs/EPZs and four exporters in Domestic Trafic Area have defaulted under the schemes as reported by MMTC.

(d) 23 cases of alleged irregularities have been referred by MMTC to various investigating agencies including CBI, DRI, Enforcement Directorate and DGFT for investigation and necessary action.

Rice Export Policy

3226. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy for the export of rice from India and the rationale thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that export of non-basmati rice has increased substantially during the recent years;

(c) the quantities, values and per unit value of export, separately of basmati non-basmati rice 1992-93, year-wise; and

(d) to what extent increased export of non-basmati rice has affected the common man, by way of increase in its prices and domestic non-availability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) It is the policy of the Government to allow the exports of items of mass consumption in such a manner that it does not compromise the food security system. As per the current Export-Import Policy, export of rice both Basmati and Non-Basmati Rice are allowed freely without any quantitative and price restrictions. However, exports of Basmati Rice are subject to registration with Agricultural

and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority.

(b) and (c) The quantity, value and per unit realisation of Basmati and Non-Basmati Rice exported since 1992-93 are as follows:—

Quantity: *in Lakh MTs.*
Value: *in Rs. Crores.*
Unit Realisation in Rs. per MT.

Year	Basmati			Non-Basmati Rice		
	Qty.	Value	Unit Realisation	Qty.	Value	Unit Realisation
1992-93	3.25	800.64	24651	2.56	174.96	6844
1993-94	5.27	1061.27	20129	2.40	225.44	9376
1994-95	4.69	857.76	18301	4.23	323.45	7652
1995-96	3.92	851.16	21699	51.20	3701.85	7230
1996-97 (April, 96—Feb., 97)	4.20	1034.82	24662	18.85	1849.93	9814

(Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta)

(d) Export of Non-Basmati Rice has not been at the expense of the food security system of the country. The stock position of rice in the Central Pool is above, the minimum stocks required to be maintained under the buffer stocking policy.

Export Trade

3227. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's export trade has fallen;

(b) if so, the details of the export trade during the years 1994, 1995, 1996 and so far in 1997;

(c) the reasons for the fall in export trade; and

(d) the measures Government propose to take/have taken to boost the trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As per DCCI&S data, value of India's exports are as follows:

year	Value in US $ Million
1993-94	22237
1994-95	26330
1995-96	31797
1996-97(P)	33106

(c) Though exports have not declined, the rate of growth of exports during 1996-97 has been relatively lower. This could be attributed to inter-alia, international market conditions, tariff and non-tariff barriers, infrastructural bottlenecks, cost of export credit etc.

(d) The measures taken for export promotion include simplification of policy and procedures, promoting joint ventures and bilateral trade relations, improving efficiency & competitiveness, de-bottlenecking of export infrastructure and interaction with the exporting community. The recently announced EXIM Policy for 1997-2002 also lays emphasis on encourgement to exports through greater transparency, automaticity and procedural simplification.